

REMARKS

1. The Office Action has rejected Claims 1, 13, 19 and 25 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action states that these independent claims recite the terms of “accessing”, “establishing” and “effecting”, which were deemed to be mere ideas in the abstract without a practical application and, thus, non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action concludes that these independent claims do not produce a useful, concrete and tangible result. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims clearly provide a useful, concrete and tangible result in providing a manner by which a person can transact business over the Internet in a completely anonymous manner so that the person’s personal and confidential information is protected from being accessed over the Internet. Claims 1 and 13 are directed to a method of transacting business in an anonymous manner to protect a person from identity theft, while independent Claims 19 and 25 are directed to the systems that can provide the anonymous business transactions.

Nevertheless, Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to define the method in more concrete steps, including the steps of initiating the transaction session by validating a client’s identity; assigning an anonymous personal purchasing identification number to the client; presenting the anonymous number as the sole identification of the client over the open network, such as the Internet; and transmitting payment for the transaction to the proxy which will confirm the payment to the vendor.

Similarly, the method of independent Claim 13 has been amended to define the steps in a more concrete manner, including the validation of the client and the assignment of an anonymous identification number to the client which is used as the sole identification of the client while browsing the Internet with the client’s personal information, such as identity information and credit card information, is maintained on a credit card management server within the secure anonymous transaction engine interposed between the client and the Internet.

The systems defined by independent Claims 19 and 25 were also amended to delete the reference to “establishing an anonymous personal purchasing identification number” to creating the PPID for use as the sole identification of the client for subsequent transactions on behalf of the

client over the Internet. These systems defined in independent Claims 19 and 25 present a very concrete and tangible apparatus for the operation of an anonymous transaction over the Internet utilizing a proxy server and other identified devices to complete the system.

For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that statutory subject matter is set forth in all four independent claims and respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. The Office Action has rejected Claims 1 – 30 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0034725 (Park). The Office Action states that Park meets the limitations of the claims with reference being made primarily to the disclosure of Park at Paragraphs 0002, 0008, 0009, 0022 and 0025. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

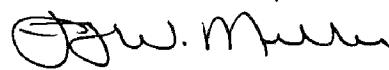
Applicant respectfully submits that the Park publication cannot meet the limitations of independent Claims 1, 13, 19 and 25, as amended, in that Park contains no disclosure for making a particular transaction in an anonymous manner that will protect the client from identity theft. Nevertheless, Applicant chooses to swear behind the Park reference by the attached Affidavit Under Rule 131. The attached Affidavit establishes a conception of Applicant's invention prior to the March 14, 2000, priority date of the cited reference and diligence in the development of the invention through to the filing date of the instant application.

Accordingly, the cited Park reference is removed as prior art to Applicant's invention and the rejection of Claims 1 - 30 has been overcome. For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that all remaining claims be passed to allowance.

3. In summary, Claims 1, 2, 8, 13, 15, 19 and 25 have been amended and Claims 1 – 30 remain in the application. Applicant believes that the claims are allowable based on the foregoing amendments. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn and that all claims remaining in this case be allowed.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call Applicant's attorney, if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the case ready for final disposition by other than allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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